

PATENT 8019-1031

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Hiroyuki SONODA et al.

Conf. 1907

Application No. 10/615,806

Group 2813

Filed July 10, 2003

Examiner W. Vesperman

METHOD OF REMOVING POLYMER AND APPARATUS FOR DOING THE SAME

STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF JOINT RESEARCH AGREEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

I, Hideyuki OGATA , declare as follows:

I am an officer of NEC Corporation;

NEC Corporation is the assignee of the entire interest of the above application;

the subject matter underlying U.S. Patent No. 6,513,537 and the claimed subject matter of the above application were made by or on the behalf of NEC Corporation and Tokyo Electron Limited as part of a joint research agreement that was in effect before the date of the claimed invention was made; and

the claimed subject matter of the present application was made as a result of activities undertaken within the scope of the joint research agreement.

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I further declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of this application and any registration resulting therefrom.

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